

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUCHAR 06208 220725Z
ACTION AGRE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DHA-02 HEW-04 MED-02 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 EB-08 IO-13 USIA-06 COME-00
TRSE-00 STR-04 OES-07 /071 W
-----128507 220731Z /17

R 220625Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5048
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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USDA PASS APHIS

ROME FOR AGATT PASS COSTIGAN

MOSCOW FOR AGATT
BELGRADE FOR AGATT

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, ECON, RO
SUBJECT: SWINE DISEASE OUTBREAK

REF: (A) BUCHAREST 5997, (B) STATE 196954

1. SUMMARY: OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL ROMANIAN SOURCES HAVE REPORTED AN OUTBREAK OF SWINE DISEASE IN THE USSR IN AREAS BORDERING ROMANIA. BEGINNING IN JULY SEVERE QUARANTINE RESTRICTIONS WERE INITIATED IN ALL SWINE PRODUCING UNITS LOCATED IN NORTH-EASTERN ROMANIA. MINAG OFFICIALS HAVE NOT ACKNOWLEDGED UNUSUAL QUARANTINE MEASURES AND STATE THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO INCIDENCE OF DISEASE IN ROMANIA. IN A VISIT TO
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A LARGE SWINE PRODUCING UNIT NEAR IASI, SELECTED BY MINAG, AGATTACHE DID NOT OBSERVE ANY DISEASED ANIMALS. END SUMMARY.

2. FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE MONTH, ROMANIAN SWINE OPERATIONS BORDERING RUSSIA UNDER SEVERE QUARANTINE, ALTHOUGH THIS SITUATION HAS NOT BEEN OFFICIALLY ADMITTED BY GOR.

3. AT MEETING WITH DR. MOVANU, DIRECTOR VET SERVICES, MIN. AGRICULTURE, AUGUST 15, HE STATED THAT THERE WERE NO OUTBREAKS OF ANY SWINE DISEASE IN ROMANIA. HE SAID THAT APRIL AND MAY ANIMAL DISEASE REPORTS RECEIVED FROM RUSSIA INDICATED OUTBREAK OF HOG CHOLERA IN CRIMEA AND MOLDAVIA AND TYPE A AFTOSA IN CRIMEA IN MAY. WHEN ASKED IF HE HAD RECEIVED JUNE AND JULY REPORTS HE REPLIED NO. WHEN ASKED IF ANY ROMANIAN SWINE UNDER RECENT QUARANTINE, HE SAID NO. HOWEVER, HE STATED THAT CERTAIN PRECAUTIONS WERE BEING TAKEN REGARDING TRANSIT TRAFFIC CROSSING BORDER FROM RUSSIA, THAT IS, ALL VEHICLES BEING DISINFECTED.

4. AT MEETING WITH VETERINARY FACULTY IN IASI AUGUST 16, STAFF STATED THAT NEW QUARANTINE MEASURES RE MOVEMENT OF SWINE ENFORCED FOR PAST MONTH. ALSO, THAT DISCUSSIONS WERE HELD WITH RUSSIANS AT BORDER RE SWINE DISEASE PROBLEM IN NEIGHBORING AREA OF RUSSIA. WHEN ASKED WHAT THE DISEASE WAS, THEY SAID THAT THE RUSSIANS CALLED IT "PEST."

5. OTHER SOURCES IN BOTH BUCHAREST AND IASI REFER TO RUSSIAN OUTBREAK AS AFRICAN SWINE FEVER. NO WAY TO CONFIRM THIS IN ROMANIA.

6. OTHER SOURCES IN IASI STATED THERE HAVE BEEN SICK SWINE IN AREA DURING PAST MONTH, BUT NO WAY TO CONFIRM SINCE OFFICIAL GOR POSITION THAT NO SWINE DISEASE PROBLEM EXISTS IN ROMANIA. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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7. BY SPECIAL PERMISSION DIRECTOR OF VET. SERVICES AGATT WAS ABLE VISIT LARGE 60,000 HEAD SWINE UNIT IN IASI AREA EIGHT KILOMETERS FROM BORDER AUGUST 16. SAME SANITARY PRECAUTIONS OBSERVED AS WOULD BE CARRIED OUT BY LARGE OPERATION IN U.S. VISIT CONDUCTED THROUGHOUT ENTIRE FACILITY WITH ALL SWINE OBSERVED LOOKING HEALTHY.

8. SUMMARY. WE FEEL THAT THERE HAS BEEN AN OUTBREAK OF AFRICAN SWINE FEVER ON RUSSIAN SIDE OF ROMANIAN BORDER, BUT DUE APPARENTLY EXTREME MEASURES TAKEN BY GOR, HAS BEEN PREVENTED FROM ENTERING ROMANIA. HOWEVER, RUMORS THAT THERE WERE SOME SICK ANIMALS IN IASI AREA COULD INDICATE THAT AN OUTBREAK OF THE DISEASE OCCURRED, BUT IF SO, IT SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN QUICKLY CONFIRMED. DOES AGATT MOSCOW HAVE ANY COMMENT?
BARNES

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Disposition History: n/a
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